

LESSON NOTES

Beginner #131

Ikemen

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KANJI

1. かおる: 久しぶり！元気？
2. としお: ぼちぼち。かおるは？
3. かおる: ばっちり。新しい彼氏ができた。もうラブラブだよ。優しくて。
4. としお: よかったね。前の彼はいつもイライラしてたからね。
5. かおる: でもね、彼はイケメンだからモテモテで、ちょっと心配。
6. としお: 大丈夫だよ！

KANA

1. かおる: ひさしぶり！げんき？
2. としお: ぼちぼち。かおるは？
3. かおる: ばっちり。あたらしいかれしができた。もうラブラブだよ。やさしくて。
4. としお: よかったね。まえのかれはいつもイライラしてたからね。
5. かおる: でもね、かれはイケメンだからモテモテで、ちょっとしんぱい。
6. としお: だいじょうぶだよ！

ROMANIZATION

CONT'D OVER

1. KAORU: Hisashiburi! Genki?
2. TOSHIO: Bochibochi. Kaoru wa?
3. KAORU: Bacchiri. Atarashii kareshi ga dekita. Mō raburabu da yo. Yasashikute.
4. TOSHIO: Yokatta ne. Mae no kare wa itsumo iraira shiteta kara ne.
5. KAORU: Demo ne, kare wa ikemen dakara motemote de, chotto shinpai.
6. TOSHIO: Daijōbu da yo!

ENGLISH

1. KAORU: Long time no see! How have you been?
2. TOSHIO: Just getting by. How about you, Kaoru?
3. KAORU: I'm great. I got a new boyfriend. We are so in love. He's so nice, and you know.
4. TOSHIO: Good for you. Because your last boyfriend was always in a bad mood.
5. KAORU: But because he's good looking, he's popular, and I'm a little worried.
6. TOSHIO: It'll be alright.

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
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ぼちぼち	ぼちぼち	bochibochi	just getting by, little by little
ばっちり	ばっちり	bacchiri	perfectly
ラブラブ	ラブラブ	raburabu	lovey-dovey
イケメン	イケメン	ikemen	good looking guy
モテモテ	モテモテ	motemote	popular among people

GRAMMAR

The use of onomatopoeia - the formation of words that imitate sounds associated with the objects, actions, or sounds they refer to - to explain sounds is a commonality shared by languages throughout the world

English onomatopoeia roughly correspond to Japanese "*giongo*" / "*giseigo*." The *kanji* for *on*, of "*giongo*", means sound, and therefore, this group tends to include audible noises that can be heard through movement, natural occurrences, etc., such as the sound of pouring rain, *zāzā*. On the other hand, the *kanji* for "*sei*," of "*giseigo*," means voice, and therefore, this group tends to include vocal sounds, such as the croak of a frog, "*kerokero*."

There is also another type of Japanese onomatopoeia* called "*gitaigo*" which differs in that they represent non-auditory actions or states, such as being sticky, "*betabeta*." While these types of words do exist in English (i.e. he zipped away), their usage is extremely limited, whereas in Japanese they are used extensively. In addition, there is a more narrowly defined subcategory of "*gitaigo*" called "*gijōgo*," which represent mental or psychological states, such as irritation, "*iraira*." The *kanji* for "*tai*," of "*gitaigo*," means state and the *kanji* for "*jō*," of "*gijōgo*," means feelings or emotion. In the chart below, there are a few examples of each.

Category	Word	English Meaning
擬音語 <i>giongo</i>	ざあざあ <i>zāzā</i>	sound of pouring rain
擬音語 <i>giongo</i>	がやがや <i>gayagaya</i>	crowd of people talking
擬声語 <i>giseigo</i>	ワンワン <i>wanwan</i>	sound of dog barking
擬声語 <i>giseigo</i>	ケロケロ <i>kerokero</i>	sound of frog croaking

擬態語 <i>gitaigo</i>	ぐるぐる <i>guruguru</i>	spinning round and round
擬態語 <i>gitaigo</i>	きらきら <i>kirakira</i>	sparkly
擬情語 <i>gijōgo</i>	わくわく <i>wakuwaku</i>	excitedly
擬情語 <i>gijōgo</i>	いらいら <i>iraira</i>	irritation

*"Gitaigo" and "gijōgo" are not, by definition, true onomatopoeia since they do not represent sounds but for practical purposes will be referred to as so. These categories are sometimes referred to as phenomimes and psychomimes, respectively, while onomatopoeia are phonomimes.